Third country imports

1749. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the goods from a third country are being pushed into India after being shown as coming from Thailand or Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner Government plan to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) No third country import under India-Thailand Early Harvest Scheme has been reported. Representations have been received from the industry alleging third country imports of pepper under India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement. Representations have also been receive on import of some other items like copper, tiles on which value addition norms are not being met by Sri Lanka.

(c) During the 3rd Commerce Secretary level talks between India and Sri Lanka, held in August, 2004, the Indian side expressed its concern over such incidents. Both sides agreed to establish a monitoring mechanism to prevent circumvention of the Rules of Origin. The imports of pepper are also being monitored by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade as one of the sensitive items.

Misuse of Export Incentive Schemes

1750. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of exporters have cheated Government through bogus exports by misusing various export incentive schemes;

(b) if so, the number of cases in which action has been taken and the names of those under probe at present; and

(c) the amount involved in those cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes Sir, instances of fraud and misuse of various export incentive schemes have come to the notice.

(b) and (c) This office comes to know about bogus exports made by exporters, through various enforcement/investigating agencies. Action is taken against such exporters for violation of FT (D&R) Act by DGFT and its regional offices. Action under Customs Act is taken by DRI/CBI. The quantum of amount involved in such cases can not be quantified unless investigation are completed.

India's share in international export/imports

†1751. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's exports share is only 0.8 per cent in the international trade market of the world whereas share of U.S.A and Germany is about 11 per cent and 10 per cent respectively;

(b) if not, the facts in this respect and whether any estimate has also been made about the imports of the country in the international market; and

(c) if so, the percentage thereof and how much decrease or increase has been registered from 1999 till 2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) According to the World Trade Statistics of the WTO, India's exports share in world merchandise trade was 0.73% in 2003. During the same year the share of USA and Germany was 9.7% and 10% respectively. However, India's imports share in world merchandise trade was 0.9% in 2003.

(c) According to the latest World Trade Statistics of the WTO, India's imports share in world merchandise trade from 1999 till 2003 is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.